

### **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The composition of claim [[3]]~~5~~ wherein the higher frequencies of oligoribonucleotides (ORNs) occurring in microbes is at least 10 fold more frequent.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): ~~The A~~ composition of claim 3 wherein the higher frequencies of ORNs for modulating and/or stimulating the immune system of an animal comprisescomprising an oligoribonucleotides (ORNs) from bacteria, each ORN having a molecular weight less than 10kDa, and wherein said oligoribonucleotides (ORNs) occur only in microbes or at frequencies higher than in mammalian cells, comprising a base sequence selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NO: 1 (AGAGGGUCGCACGCGGU),

SEQ ID NO: 2 (CGUACUGCAACUCG) or

SEQ ID NO: 3 (AGGUACAGCCAGGACUACGA) and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claims 6-32 (Cancelled).